IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RANDY C. GILES

DAVID T. NEILSON

Serial No.: 10/620,990

re Application of:

Filed:

JULY 16, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2872

Examiner:

R. SHAFER

Conf. No.:

8829

Atty. Dkt.:

2100.004382

CUSTOMER NO.: 23720

For:

AN OPTICAL CROSS CONNECT EMPLOYING A CURVED OPTICAL

COMPONENT

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION **REQUIREMENT DATED FEBRUARY 12, 2004**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA .22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 March 11, 2004 DATE OF DEPOSIT: I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as "FIRST CLASS MAIL" addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-145

This paper is submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 12, 2004 for which the date for response is March 12, 2004.

In the Restriction Requirement, the Examiner required that Applicants elect one of species A-E corresponding to Figure 3A, Figure 4, Figure 6, Figure 7, and Figure 8, respectively. The Examiner further alleges that the application contains claims directed to sub-species corresponding to the Figures 5A-D and required that Applicants elect a sub-species consonant with the species election.

In response to the restriction requirement that the Examiner imposed, Applicants elect to prosecute claims 16-19, 21, and 26-27. Applicants submit that at least claims 16-17 and 26-27 esolity. Contraindon or the Petrato, P.O. How holds of the contract of the are generic and the remaining claims are directed to the species and sub-species corresponding to

Figures 3A and 5C. Applicants also submit that claims 20, 22-25, and 28-29 will be entitled to rejoinder upon receiving an indication that one or more generic claims are allowable.

No fee is believed due as a result of the response contained herein. However, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0786/2100.004382.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (713) 934-4052 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON, P.C. CUSTOMER NO. 23720

Date: March 11, 2004

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